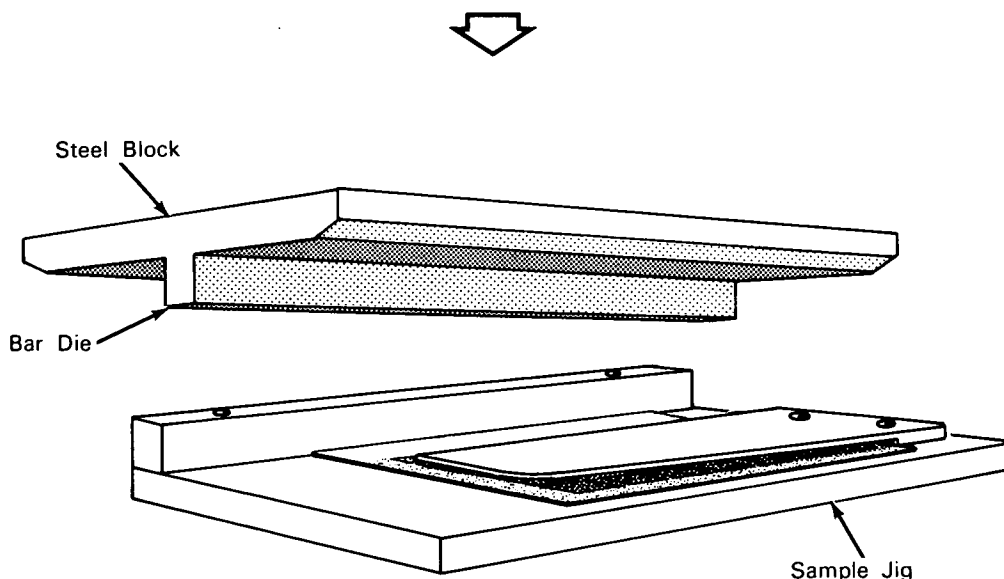


# NASA TECH BRIEF



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## Opaque Microfiche Masthead Permits Easy Reading



**The problem:** Microfiche, a form of microfilm, consists of a series of images of reduced size placed on a file-card size support for ease of storage and retrieval. The title and indexing information are photographed in full size type at the top of the microfiche to form the masthead. In order to read the titles and other masthead information, it is necessary to remove the microfiche from the file and hold it to back-lighting.

**The solution:** A white-pigmented backing applied to the reverse side of the masthead area to make it

opaque so that the letters and numerals may be easily read.

**How it's done:** A roll leaf heat stamping press is used to apply a white-pigmented stamping foil in tape form to the reverse side of the masthead area. The press has a chase that accepts a steel block containing a bar die that is the size of the masthead area. A sample jig is placed on the base plate of the press to hold the microfiche in position. The stamping foil is manually positioned on the reverse of the masthead area and a combination of heat and pressure bonds it to the microfiche in much the same manner as lettering is bonded to luggage and other leather goods.

(continued overleaf)

**Notes:**

1. This invention should be of interest to organizations that are involved with large volume information storage and retrieval.
2. Inquiries concerning this invention may be directed to:  
Technology Utilization Officer  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Code ATU  
Washington, D.C., 20546  
Reference: B65-10306

**Patent status:** NASA encourages the immediate commercial use of this invention. Inquiries about obtaining rights for its commercial use may be made to NASA, Code AGP, Washington, D.C., 20546.

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